(c) and (d) Yes Sir, to make the scheme self-sustaining the premium subsidy is to be phased out over a period of 5 years, reducing the same by 10% every year. At present *{i.e.* 2004-05) the premium subsidy has been reduced to 10%.

Implementation of NAIS

1792. Ms. PRAMILA BOHIDAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state.

(a) whether it is a fact that some of the States are not implementing the National Agriculture Insurance Scheme (1999-2000), treating Gram Panchayats as the unit of insurance;

(b) if so, the names of such States; and

(c) the action plan of Government to ensure that the above insurance scheme is implemented by all the States in its true letter and spirit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) Yes Sir, all the implementing States/UTs except Pondicherry and Andaman & Nicobar Islands are not implementing the National Agriculture Insurance Scheme (NAIS), treating Gram Panchyats as the unit of insurance. These States are:

Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Meghalaya, Orissa, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, Uttaranchal and West Bengal.

(c) All the States/UTs are being sensitized from time to time by giving details of NAIS in the national level Conferences like National Conference on Agriculture for Kharif and Rabi Campaign. Besides this, special visits and meetings are arranged to explain the provisions of the scheme and to persuade non-participating states. The representatives of Implementing Agency (IA) are required to attend regularly the State Level Coordination Conwnittee on Crop Insurance (SLCCCI)'s meeting so as to clarify all the issues concerning implementation of the Scheme.